

APPENDIX G

TRANSITION FROM THE

RESTORATION PRIORITY (RP)

SYSTEM TO

THE TSP SYSTEM

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On September 10, 1990 the Initial Operating Capability (IOC) date, the Manager, NCS will stop certifying RP circuits, and the TSP Program Office will begin to make TSP assignments. At IOC, service users may submit requests for new TSP assignments to the TSP Program Office. At IOC, they may also submit requests to change RP certifications to TSP assignments.

A 30-month transition period, from the existing RP System to the TSP System, will begin at IOC. Both systems will be in effect during the transition period. During the transition period, service users will identify, evaluate, and submit eligible RP circuits to the TSP Program Office for TSP assignments.

Service vendors will be required to continue honoring existing RP circuit certifications while also accepting and honoring new TSP assignments. At the end of the transition period, the RP certifications will be cancelled.

This appendix provides guidelines to service users for submitting information on an existing RP circuit in order to obtain a TSP assignment. It also discusses submitting a service order to a service vendor for an RP circuit before the TSP IOC date but with the requested due date occurring after IOC. In addition, it discusses service vendor restoration of TSP services and RP circuits during the transition period.

G.1 SUBMITTING RP CERTIFIED CIRCUITS FOR TSP ASSIGNMENTS

Service users may submit existing RP certified circuits for TSP assignments any time during the 30-month transition period. At the end of the 30-month period, remaining RP certifications will have no meaning and service vendors will disregard them. Service users have the entire 30-month period to make the transition from RP certifications to TSP assignments. (Service users should be aware that, unlike RP certified circuits, a fee from the service vendor may be associated with TSP assignments.)

Service users should first identify their existing RP circuits. They should then evaluate these circuits for eligibility for TSP restoration priority assignments and determine the appropriate priority level to request. Service users will use the TSP Request For Service Users form (SF 315) to submit RP certified circuits for TSP assignments. (See chapter 3.0, TSP Assignments, and chapter 4.0, Restoration Priority.)

In addition, service users should be aware that, if they want to keep priority treatment for an RP circuit after the TSP IOC date, they must not submit a change order to a vendor without first obtaining a TSP assignment. (The automatic ordering procedures that most service vendors will use will not be able to accommodate an order with an RP designation.) Following the IOC date, service users may not submit a service order to a service vendor regarding an existing RP circuit without either a TSP Authorization Code or a definitive statement in the "remarks" section of the order to remove the RP assignment. Service users may not use the designation "00" (zero zero) on the service order to remove the RP assignment.

G.2 REQUESTING RP CIRCUITS BEFORE IOC WITH DUE DATES OCCURRING AFTER IOC

After IOC, service users will not submit requests for RP System circuits to either the TSP Program Office or to service vendors. Similarly, after the IOC date, service users will not invoke NSEP treatment for provisioning new services without a TSP Authorization Code. (See paragraph 5.1, Invocation of NSEP Treatment.)

If a service user submits an order for an RP circuit before IOC, but the due date falls after IOC, the service vendor is not authorized to establish an RP designation on the circuit. The same conditions apply to RP circuit orders with due dates very close to the IOC date. If a delay causes the installation to occur after IOC, the service vendor is not authorized to establish an RP designation on the circuit.

Service users are advised of the potential for wasted effort when submitting RP circuit orders close to the IOC date. If a service user submits a service order with an RP assignment before IOC, but the service is installed after IOC, they will need to get a TSP assignment and resubmit a service order with a TSP Authorization Code to get priority treatment.

In the event NSEP treatment has been invoked and priority provisioning is in process at IOC, the service vendor will continue the provisioning. However, any RP assignment attached to the service will not be carried forward.

The Manager, NCS will process a request for an RP circuit received before IOC, but will also send a message to the service user that the RP will only be valid if installation takes place before IOC. However, the Manager, NCS requests that contracting activities not accept an RP order if the due date will be after IOC.

G.3 SERVICE VENDOR RESTORATION OF TSP SERVICES AND RP CIRCUITS DURING TRANSITION

During the transition period, existing RP circuits will remain in effect, and service vendors must honor them. Service vendors will also receive and honor service orders containing TSP assignments. When a service user reports that a service with either a TSP assignment or an RP certification has failed or is unusable, the service vendor will take action to restore the service as follows.

Service users can expect service vendors to give similar restoration treatment for services with TSP assignments or RP certifications within the same priority level. For example, TSP services assigned restoration priority 1 and RP circuits assigned 1A - 1G will be restored before TSP services assigned 2 and RP circuits assigned 2A - 2G. If there is a shortage of resources to respond equally to all TSP services and RP circuits at a given priority level, service vendors will use their best judgment to determine the sequence of restoration within a priority level. (See paragraph 4.4, Service Vendors' TSP Restoration Responsibilities.)

However, service users are advised that the FCC requires service vendors to dispatch outside normal business hours if necessary to restore TSP services assigned a restoration priority of 1, 2, or 3. Service vendors are not required to dispatch outside normal business hours to restore TSP services assigned 4 or 5 unless the next business day is more than 24 hours away. The RP System does not contain similar provisions; therefore, service vendors can be expected to honor existing arrangements regarding out-of-hours restoration for RP circuits.